

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing bank notes present as separate deposits, characterized in that at least one of the beginning and/or end of each deposit (1 to 4) is ascertained, the bank notes of each deposit (1 to 4) are fed into a separate carrier (71 to 74), and each carrier (71 to 74) transports the bank notes of one deposit (1 to 4) to processing.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, characterized in that information (I) of the deposits (1 to 4) is detected, and the detected information (I) of the deposits (1 to 4) is joined to the particular carrier (71 to 74) of a deposit (1 to 4).

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~1 or 2~~, characterized in that a deposit (1 to 4) is subdivided into subunits by feeding at least one separation card (TK), the separation card (TK) being recognized during processing of the bank notes so that the subunits of a deposit (1 to 4) can be brought to account.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that the deposits (1 to 4) are formed by one or more bundles of bank notes each having a band, the bands being removed from the bundles before the bank notes of the bundles are fed into the particular carrier (71 to 74).

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, characterized in that the bands are stored in the order in which they appear in at least one of the deposits (1 to 4) and/or subunits, the bands are removed from storage after successful processing of the associated bank notes, and the bands are provided for at least one

of a check and/or investigation after ascertainment of deviations in at least one of the deposits and/or subunits.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~4 or 5~~, characterized in that an image of each band is recorded and stored.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 3 to 6~~claim 3, characterized in that deviations occurring in subunits of a deposit (1 to 4) are balanced against each other.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, characterized in that the deposits of a certain depositor are treated according to specifications coming from the depositor, the specifications being derived from the information (I).

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing bank notes present as separate deposits by means of a bank note processing machine (50 to 57) having a singler (50), a transport system (51), a checking device (52), a delivery device (53) and a control device (57), whereby a transport device (60) transports carriers (71 to 74) containing the deposits (1 to 4) to the singler (50), characterized by a sensor (62) for detecting at least one of the beginning and/or end of each deposit (1 to 4), a filling position at which the bank notes of each deposit (1 to 4) are fed into a separate carrier (71 to 74), each carrier (71 to 74) transporting the bank notes of one deposit to the singler (50) for processing.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 9, characterized in that the sensor (62) for recognizing at least one of the beginning and/or the end (I3) detects information (I) of the deposits (1 to 4), and the detected information (I) of the deposits (1 to 4) is joined to the particular carrier (71 to 74) of a deposit (1 to 4), for which purpose a unique marking (81 to 84) of the carriers (71 to 74) is detected by a

first sensor (61).

11. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 10, characterized in that a second sensor (61') is provided which detects the unique marking (81 to 84) of the carriers (71 to 74) for processing of the bank notes contained in the carriers (71 to 74) by the bank note processing machine (50 to 57).

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any of claims 9 to 11~~claim 9, characterized in that separation cards (TK) are to be fed at the filling position for subdividing the deposits (1 to 4), the separation cards (TK) being recognized by the checking device (52) so that an accounting for the bank notes of the deposits (1 to 4) can be subdivided.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to ~~any of claims 9 to 12~~claim 9, characterized in that the deposits (1 to 4) are formed by one or more bundles of bank notes each having a band, the bands being removed from the bundles at the filling position before the bank notes of the bundles are fed into the particular carrier (71 to 74).

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 13, characterized in that a storage device (63) stores the bands in the order in which they appear in at least one of the deposits (1 to 4) and/or subunits, the storage device (63) removes (65) the bands after successful processing of the associated bank notes for disposal (67), and the storage device (63) provides bands after faulty processing of at least one of the deposits and/or subunits for at least one of a check and/or investigation (66).

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~, characterized in that the sensor (62) produces an image of each band, said image being stored in the control device (57).